



USDA
South Dakota
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

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South Dakota LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

News Release

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APRIL MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

SIoux FALLS, May 21, 2004 – Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 74.7 million pounds during April. This was down 3 percent from one year ago and down 4 percent from last month, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. For April, pork production and sheep and lamb production were down from one year ago.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 351,200 head during April compared to 356,700 head last year. Average live weight was 260 pounds, which was down 3 pounds from April 2003. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 350,300 head, which was comprised of 4,300 sows, and 346,100 barrows and gilts.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 700 head during April, down 800 head from last year. Average live weight was 118 pounds, down 12 pounds from April 2003. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 500 head of lambs and yearlings.

Commercial slaughter data for beef cattle is not published.

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